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(a 314 & 316)

First Licinian War.

Ltr 316

2nd great battle near Adrianopolis  
in Thrace, at a place called  
CAMPUS ARDIENSIS. Constantine  
vs Valens / Licinius.

Valens was executed. Licinius  
ceded most of the Balkan Provinces  
to Constantine

316-340

Constantine II, Roman emperor,  
son of Constantine I.

Constantine II, in 337 received  
Britain, Gaul, and Spain. He felt  
he had been cheated. He demanded  
territory that had been given  
to CONSTANS I.

In an invasion of Italy to win  
territory, he was killed in an ambush.

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Constantine attacked Licinius and  
seized the Balkans (except for Thracia)

316

c 260-340 LACTANTIUS

Historian: lived through final  
persecutions at end of III<sup>rd</sup> &  
beginning of 4<sup>th</sup> Cen.

Trusted friend of Constantine

LUCIUS CAELIUS FIRMIANUS LACTANTIUS

Christian Author and apologist. Born Africa.  
Taught rhetoric at Diocletian's school in  
Nicomedia and during the persecutions was  
converted to Christianity. Later (c 316) he was

Lactantius at Trier to Constantine I's  
son. His works, influenced by Cicero  
and Seneca, were sincere, well written  
expositions of Church Doctrine but sometimes  
erroneous in theological details.

His works are the chief source  
for the history of the Persecutions  
Nero, Domitian, Decius & their horrible end.

Constantine transferred the center of his activities to the Balkan provinces recently seized from LICINIUS, making SERDICA (modern Sofia) and then SIRMION (near Belgrade) his principal base.

8 Oct 314

Battle of CIBALAE.

Constantine defeated Licinius's much larger Army. Licinius fled to SERDICA, where he proclaimed VALENS, Commander of the Danube frontier forces, his colleague in power with title of Augustus. VALENS assembled a new army.



Autumn 3/6

Constantine invaded the Balkans